

Message Text

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ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 CCO-00 /012 W

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R 140930Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8618

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 2749

ACCRA FOR RCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ACOM NG NJMR

SUBJECT: NOUAKCHOTT-NIAMEY HF LINK

REF: STATE 244314 DEC 1973

ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND DECISION ON SITING WATTS RELAY STATION NOT YET FINAL, WORK ON READYING NIAMEY TO SERVICE NOUAKCHOTT CONTINUING. WE HAVE RECENTLY LEARNED FROM TECHNICIANS PRESENTLY IN NIAMEY OF SIZE AND CONFIGURATION PROPOSED ANTENNA INSTALLATION. DIMENSIONS DIFFER CONSIDERABLY FROM WHAT WE HAD ENVISAGED FROM EARLIER ORAL BRIEFINGS. BECAUSE OF PROMINENT SIZE AND LOCATION ANTENNA AS WELL AS INCREASING SENSITIVITIES OF NEW MILITARY GOVERNMENT, WE WEIGHING DECISION WHETHER WE SHOULD INFORM GON OF NEW INSTALLATION. IN DOING SO WE COULD VERY WELL BE CONFRONTED BY GON WITH QUESTIONS REGARDING PERMISSION OPERATE HF RADIO CIRCUIT AND/OR FREQUENCY PLAN. TO ERECT ANTENNA AS CURRENTLY PLANNED WITHOUT INFORMING GOVERNMENT HOWEVER RISKS POTENTIALLY MORE SERIOUS BILATERAL PROBLEMS. WE THEREFORE BELIEVE RE-SITING ANTENNA IN LESS CONSPICUOUS LOCATION BEHIND CHANCERY IS NECESSARY AND MIGHT EVEN ALLEVIATE NEED TO APPROACH GON ON MATTER.

ACTION REQUESTED: WHILE WE DESIROUS OF HELPING NOUAKCHOTT OVERCOME COMMUNICATIONS GAPS, IN VIEW OF
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PROBLEMS WITH NIGER GOVERNMENT IF WE PROCEED AS NOW

PLANNED, WE RECOMMEND AS FIRST COURSE OF ACTION THAT ERECTION
OF ANTENNA BE SUSPENDED PENDING SELECTION MORE SUITABLE
SITE ON EMBASSY GROUNDS.HECK

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Message Attributes

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